

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 AMMAN 03935 271056Z

15

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O P 271038Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8650

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY

S E C R E T AMMAN 3935

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, JO, US, SA

SUBJECT: JORDAN AIR DEFENSE

REF: STATE 185253

1 WHEN I SAW KING EVENING JULY 26, HE RAISED WITH ME THE QUESTION OF THE COMMUNIQUE WHICH HE HAS DRAFTED TO HIS TROOPS TO ANNOUNCE THE SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THE SAUDI FUNDING OF THE HAWK DEAL. HE MADE IT CLEAR THAT HE ATTACHES SOME URGENCY TO ANNOUNCING THE DECISION.

2. I TOLD HIM AGAIN THAT I THOUGHT HIS EFFORTS WOULD BE PREMATURE. HE ACCEPTED THE POINT. NEVERTHELESS, HE IS CHAMPING AT THE BIT AND MY JUDGMENT IS THAT HE FEELS THERE IS ENOUGH GROWING UNCERTAINTY IN THE ARMY OVER THE DEAL, AND PERHAPS EVEN MORE IMPORTANTLY OVER SUCH OTHER FACTORS AS THE GOVERNMENT'S CURRENT FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES, THAT HE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE SOME GOOD NEWS TO TAKE THE HEAT OFF.

3. COMMENT: WE BELIEVE THE HAWK PROJECT HAS GONE SO FAR AND IS TOO IMPORTANT NOW TO BE FOULED UP BY ANOTHER PREMATURE COMMUNIQUE FROM THE KING, HOWEVER MUCH HE THINKS SAUDIS WILL BE PLEASED WITH HIS TEXT. WHILE HE TOOK MY POINT LAST WEEK ABOUT CHECKING ANY SUCH STATEMENT WITH THE SUADIS, MY IMPRESSION IS THAT THEIR LAST

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MESSAGE TO HIM IMPLIED THAT THEIR COMMITMENT FOR THE

DEAL WAS ALL WORKED OUT EXCEPT FOR A FEW POINTS.  
I WOULD LIKE TO KEEP KING UP TO DATE ON THE STATE OF  
PLAY WITH THE SAUDIS (REFTEL, IN LARGE PART TO REASSURE HIM  
THAT REAL PROGRESS IS BEING MADE, BUT WOULD WANT TO  
HAVE DEPARTMENT'S JUDGMENT ON SUCH A STEP BEFORE  
DOING SO.  
PICKERING

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AIR DEFENSE, FINANCE, MILITARY SALES, MISSILES, NEGOTIATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 27 JUL 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** powellba  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976AMMAN03935  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760288-1188  
**From:** AMMAN  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Line Count:** 68  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION SS  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** 76 STATE 185253  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** powellba  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 15 JUN 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <15 JUN 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <04 NOV 2004 by powellba>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** JORDAN AIR DEFENSE  
**TAGS:** PFOR, MASS, JO, US, SA  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006